From:	Karin Freed
To:	Durbin, Wilford; McGovern, Marc
Subject:	Concern over HP Resolution
Date:	Monday, April 23, 2018 1:23:45 PM

Dear Mayor McGovern,

I take tremendous pride in being a Cambridge voter, homeowner, resident, activist, and teacher. I love my city and the way it embraces diversity and community. However, recently, I learned of a resolution the city council is considering that greatly troubled me. I'm referring to the resolution to boycott Hewlet Packard for its supposed "support for violence against and oppression of Palestinians, deportations and surveillance of immigrants in the U.S., and oppression and surveillance of those currently and formerly incarcerated in the U.S."

This resolution is backed by the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) movement, which is deeply rooted in anti-Semitism and regularly stifles productive discussion on the complex issues at stake between Israel and Palestine. As a Jew and as a politically-engaged citizen, I am distressed by the idea of a BDS resolution swiftly making its way through to my city's counselors and getting signed without open discussion and debate. I feel personally endangered by the BDS movement, and I know many other Cambridge residents who share my sentiment. I do not support this ban against Hewlet Packard and consider it an effort to condemn the State of Israel.

I do not wish to see my city council so easily swayed by an interest group whose purpose is to demonize Israel and, ultimately, the Jewish people. I fully support a two-state solution in Israel, and I see the BDS movement as detrimental to that cause. Boycotts like the one targeting HP undermine peace efforts, encourage polarization, and reject the notion of co-existence.

Thank you for taking time to read this message and consider my opinions.

Sincerely,
Karin Freed